United States Department of Agriculture
NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

PEST MANAGEMENT (CSP Enhancements) February 2006

Enhancement Activity Jobsheet **MS-CSP-EPM-JS**

Enhancement Activities

Enhancements activities refer to actions that provide resource benefits beyond the level prescribed by NRCS Conservation Practice Standards. Once implemented enhancement activities should result in an observable or measurable improvement to the condition of one or more of the soil, water, air, plant or animal resources, or provide for more efficient resource utilization and/or energy conservation.

Enhancement Activity Benefits

Enhancement activities associated with pest management such as scouting crops for pests, using crop rotation, using pest resistant crop varieties, and widening buffers can result in the following benefits to the producer and the environment:

- Reduced risks to beneficial insects (e.g., honeybees, parasitic wasps, lady beetles, etc.)
- Reduced risks to ground and surface water quality
- Lower costs by limiting chemical applications to only when necessary

CSP Payments

You can earn payments if you meet the minimum eligibility and have participated in any of the following activities:

- Managed pest problems and reduced pesticide use by utilizing pest avoidance techniques such as pest resistant varieties (GMO's), trap crops, etc..
- Minimized pest problems by using two or more crop types in rotation in addition to using cover crops.
- Reduced pesticide usage by applying low risk chemicals at low rates in a spot spray, banded or directed spray manner as opposed to broadcast.

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Client's Acknowledgement Statement:

I have used the following Pest Management activities and understand the requirement of the selected activities (Check all that apply):

- ☐ Managed pest problems and reduced pesticide use by implementing pest avoidance techniques such as pest resistant varieties (GMO's), trap crops, etc.
- ☐ Minimized pest problems by using two crop types in rotation in addition to using cover crops.
- ☐ Reduced pesticide usage by applying low risk chemicals at low rates in a spot spray, banded or directed spray manner as opposed to broadcast.

I agree that the following information will be provided to NRCS upon request:

- Written documentation of the activity performed (use attached worksheets or equivalent).
- Copies of dated receipts for equipment or services purchased.

I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain all necessary permits and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of these activities.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Certification by NRCS:

I have completed a review of the information provided by the client and certify this activity has been applied.

Activity	Name and Title	Date

Name:

Worksheet 1 – Use Crop Rotation to Break Pest Cycle

Payment = $5/Acre/crop year for fields where high residue crop rotation has been established to break pest cycles.

Crops will be grown in a planned, recurring sequence that consist of a high residue crop following a low residue crop (minimum diversity of two crop types with no low residue crops following low residue crops) with a cover crop no-till planted after the low residue crop. A conservation crop rotation system may include crops planted for cover or nutrient enhancement. High residue crops may follow high residue crops. High residue crops which are farmed in such a manner as to produce a positive Soil Conditioning Index do not require cover crops.

Crops shall be alternated to break the pest cycle and/or allow for the use of a variety of other control methods. Affected crops and alternate host crops will be removed from the rotation for the period of time (minimum one growing season) needed to break the life cycle of the targeted pest. Resistant varieties listed in appropriate university publications or other approved sources will be selected where there is a history of a pest problem.

Rotations will provide for acceptable substitute crops in case of crop failure or shift in planting intentions for weather related or economic reasons. Acceptable substitutes are crops having similar properties that meet the criteria for all the resource concerns identified for the field or treatment unit. Examples would be substituting grain sorghum for corn, cotton for soybeans, etc., as long as the rotation meets designed objectives.

An example of an acceptable rotation would be: no-till cotton with rye/clover cover and no-till corn. A rotation of cotton/rye, only is not acceptable. Payments will be made at $5 for every acre included in the high residue rotation. Follow the Conservation Crop Rotation standard 328.

Use this (or similar) table to document planned crop rotation.

Tract & Field #s or Names	Acres	Planned Rotation Sequence						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
T111 – 3,4,5	600	Cotton	Rye Cover	Corn	Rye Cover	Cotton	Rye Cover	Corn

Crop Rotation Certification

I certify that I have used a high residue crop rotation system on the field(s) listed in the table above.

Name:_____ Date:_____

Name:

Worksheet 2 - Use Pest Avoidance Techniques such as Pest Resistant Varieties or Trap Crops

Payment = $5/Acre/crop year for fields where pest avoidance techniques such as pest resistant varieties or trap crops are used.

Manage the pesticide usage by implementing pest avoidance techniques such as pest resistant varieties, trap crops, etc. There are numerous transgenic (crops with genetically modified organism) crop varieties available to producers. Those GMO's that offer protection against harmful insects and diseases can be grown. Some crops serve as trap crops to attract damaging insects and will result in reduced insecticide use. Payments will be made at $5 for every acre planted and properly managed that is within the effective radius of the trap crop. Follow the Pest Management 595 standard. Crop scouting with treatment thresholds determined prior to treatment is required. A pest management history record will be maintained for the life of the contract. Receipts for the purchase of GMO seeds should be kept for documentation.

Use this (or similar) table to document the location, acres, crop, target pest, and control method used. Attach a plan map showing the location of trap crops.

Crop Grown	Tract & Field #s	Acres	Target Pest	Control Method Used	Date
Cotton	T123 Field 2	80	Budworms Bollworms	Bollgard Cotton Variety	04
Soybeans	T123 Field 3	80	Grasses & Broadleaf Weeds	Planted Roundup Ready Variety	04

Attach receipts for seed.

Pest Resistant Variety or Trap Crop Certification

I certify that I have used pest resistant varieties or trap crops on the fields) listed in the table above.

Name:_____ Date:_____

Name:

Worksheet 3 – Reduce pesticide usage by applying pesticides in a spot spray, banded or directed spray manner or in low and very low risk broadcast applications

Payment = $3/Acre/year for every acre to which pesticides are applied.

The intent of this enhancement is to decrease pesticide application rate and their effect on the environment by reducing the actual amount of chemical applied and by increasing the accuracy of its application. Payments will be made at $3 for every acre properly managed. Follow the Pest Management 595 standard. Crop scouting with treatment thresholds determined prior to treatment is required. A pest management history record will be maintained for the life of the contract. Broadcast applications can only be made using low or very low risk chemicals according to WIN-PST classifications.

Documentation Required: Farmer or crop consultant certification of reduced pesticide use technique used and scouting report. An example is provided to assist you.

Tract & Field #s or Names	Pest treated	WIN-PST rating	Pesticide used for treatment	Scouting report	Crops in rotation
T486 – 1	Pig We Example	media te	Atrazine	yes	Corn/corn/ cotton

Tract & Field #s or Names	Pest treated	WIN-PST rating	Pesticide used for treatment	Manner of Application	Crop	Acres Treated

Reduced Pesticide Usage Certification

I certify that I have implemented a reduced pesticide usage system using intermediate, low, or very low risk pesticides in a spot spray, banded or directed manner. Copies of scouting reports are attached.

Name:_____ Date:_____

Name:

Worksheet 20 – Manage Pest Using Non-Chemical Alternatives

Payment = $5.00/Acre/year for every acre to which pest are managed using non-chemical alternatives.

The intent of this enhancement is to decrease pesticide application rate and their effect on the environment by reducing the amount of chemical applied. Organically grown crops are eligible for this enhancement. Use of genetically modified organisms, trap crops, crop rotation and other cultural and/or biological control practices to control pest will be required to achieve an enhancement payment. No inorganic pesticides will be used in the production of the crop. Crop scouting with treatment thresholds determined prior to treatment is required. A pest management history record will be maintained for the life of the contract.

In alternate years, inorganic pesticides may be used to reduce a specific pest infestation. Acreage is not subject to payment for that production year.

Documentation Required: Farmer or crop consultant certification of organically grown crop.

Tract & Field #s or Names	Crop	Targeted pest	method used for treatment	Scouting report	Crops in rotation
T486 – 1 Example	corn	ear worms	crop rotation	yes	corn/corn/ soybeans

Reduced Pesticide Usage Certification

I certify that I have implemented a reduced pesticide usage system using non-chemical alternatives to control pest. Copies of scouting reports are attached.

Name:_____ Date:_____